

AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A cyclone dust collecting device for a vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a cyclone body for connection to a telescopic extension pipe of the vacuum cleaner, the cyclone body generating a swirling vortex from an inflow of air and contaminants; and

a cyclone housing detachably engaged with the cyclone body, the cyclone housing having a slanted partition with a through-hole formed therein, the slanted partition dividing an interior of the cyclone housing into an upper space for separating the contaminants from the air by guiding the swirling vortex of air and a lower space for receiving the contaminants that have been separated from the air, and

a cyclone cover having a cylindrical shape, an open upper end, a lower closed end disposed at a lower portion of the cyclone cover, the open upper end being engaged with the cyclone body, the lower closed end being closed by the slanted partition,

and a dust collecting container detachably engaged with the lower portion of the cyclone cover, the dust collecting container having an open end that is slanted to correspond with the slanted partition of the cyclone cover.
2. (cancelled).
3. (currently amended) The cyclone dust collecting device as claimed in claim 1 2, wherein the dust collecting container comprises a closed end which is slanted to correspond to the slanted partition.
4. (currently amended) ~~The~~ A cyclone dust collecting device as claimed in claim 1 for a vacuum cleaner, comprising:

a cyclone body for connection to a telescopic extension pipe of the vacuum cleaner, the cyclone body generating a swirling vortex from an inflow of air and contaminants; and

a cyclone housing detachably engaged with the cyclone body, the cyclone housing having a slanted partition with a through-hole formed therein, the slanted partition dividing an interior of the cyclone housing into an upper space for separating the contaminants from the air by guiding the swirling vortex of air and a lower space for receiving the contaminants that have been separated from the air, wherein the slanted partition includes a dome-shaped protrusion formed on a center thereof.

5. (previously presented) The cyclone dust collecting device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising supporting means for supporting the cyclone housing with respect to the telescopic extension pipe and preventing separation of the cyclone housing from the cyclone body.

6. (previously presented) The cyclone dust collecting device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the supporting means comprises:

a fixture member mounted to the telescopic extension pipe;
an insertion member movably disposed on the fixture member, the insertion member being received in a recess formed in a lower end of the cyclone housing, when the cyclone housing is coupled to the cyclone body; and
an elastic member for biasing the insertion member into engagement with the recess.

7. (previously presented) The cyclone dust collecting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cyclone housing comprises:

a cyclone cover having a cylindrical shape, an open upper end, and a lower end, the open upper end being engaged with the cyclone body, the lower end being slant with respect to the slanted partition at a predetermined angle; and
a dust collecting container having an open end engaged with a lower portion of the cyclone cover by a screw, the dust collecting container receiving the contaminants that have passed through the through-hole of the slanted partition.

8. (currently amended) A vacuum cleaner comprising:
- a cleaner body, including a suction creating device;
- a telescopic extension pipe coupled to the cleaner body via a flexible hose;
- a cyclone dust collecting device mounted to the telescopic extension pipe, the cyclone dust collecting device including:
- a cyclone body mounted on the telescopic extension pipe, the cyclone body generating a swirling vortex from an inflow of air and contaminants caused by the suction creating device; and
- a cyclone housing detachably engaged with the cyclone body, the cyclone housing having a slanted partition with a through-hole formed therein, the slanted partition dividing an interior of the cyclone housing into an upper space for separating the contaminants from the air by guiding the swirling vortex of air and a lower space for receiving the contaminants that have been separated from the air, the cyclone housing further comprising:
- a cyclone cover having a cylindrical shape, an open upper end, and a lower closed end disposed at a lower portion of the cyclone cover, the open upper end being engaged with the cyclone body, the lower closed end being closed by the slanted partition; and
- a dust collecting container detachably engaged with a lower portion of the cyclone cover in the lower space, the dust collecting container having an open end that is slanted to correspond with the slanted partition of the cyclone cover.
9. (cancelled).

10. (currently amended) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 8, wherein the dust collecting container comprises a closed end which is slanted to correspond to the slanted partition.
11. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 8, wherein the slanted partition includes a dome-shaped protrusion formed on a center thereof.
12. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 8, further comprising supporting means for supporting the cyclone housing on the telescopic extension pipe and preventing separation of the cyclone housing from the cyclone body.
13. (previously presented) The vacuum cleaner as claimed in claim 6, wherein the supporting means comprises: a fixture member mounted to the telescopic extension pipe; an insertion member movably disposed on the fixture member, the insertion member being received in a recess formed in a lower end of the cyclone housing, when the cyclone housing is coupled to the cyclone body; and an elastic member for biasing the insertion member into engagement with the recess.
14. (previously presented) The cyclone dust collecting device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the cyclone housing comprises: a cyclone cover having a cylindrical shape, an open upper end, and a lower end, the open upper end being engaged with the cyclone body, the lower end being slant with respect to the slanted partition at a predetermined angle; and a dust collecting container having an open end engaged with a lower portion of the cyclone cover by a screw, the dust collecting container receiving the contaminants that have passed through the through-hole of the slanted partition.